

allowed and there's a trap that I don't fully understand that's called a killer trap. And I don't know exactly what a killer trap is but it doesn't sound too friendly to me. So, considering that three of those types can hold those animals for any length of time, although, according to Game and Parks, their rules require that the traps are checked every 24 hours, there really is unlikely to be any enforcement of that, so the animal could be held for lengths of time. However, my main objection to having trapping in the statute is the fact that it truly would make an act of compassion illegal in this state. And I really don't think that, with the kind of violence and the kinds of events that are taking place nationwide and especially in our state, that we want to discourage compassion. And it's for that reason that I ask your support of amending out trapper, trapping, from this particular piece of legislation. And if there are questions, I would be happy to answer them. Otherwise, I will not take up the remainder of the time that I have available, out of respect for the time of this body. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Elmer, followed by Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate Senator Preister's concern and his compassion for an animal that may be caught in one of these traps. However, we must realize that trapping is a legal activity that's being carried on as part of other statute, other sections of the game law that makes it legal for them to do these things. And I'm sure if Senator Preister or Senator Landis comes upon a trapped dog or a trapped kitten or something like that and in their compassion releases this animal, takes it to a veterinarian, those are not game animals. They are not part of this. They could take those to a veterinarian with no fear of reprisal. Trapping is used extensively to control predators such as coyotes, to control the population of other fur-bearing animals so that they do not become too numerous and die of diseases and things of that nature. I don't believe that Senator Preister would accomplish what he really wants to do in amending this bill because the trapping activities would continue and I don't believe it would be proper to protect some types of taking of game animals and without protecting them all, that I would ask you please to defeat this amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Jones.